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The Hero, Blushing After Self-Reflection

Ever since the battle with Gabriel, Alas=Ramus had been staying at Emi's apartment.

It was the evening, Maou, Emi, and Alas Ramus, the 'family of three', went to the Seiseki-sakuragaoka Shopping Centre to buy the futon she needed at her young age when she stayed at the Demon Fortress where her 'father' Maou lived.

Within Room 201 of Villa Rosa Sasazuka, where the summer heat could still be felt even after sunset, after the discussion between Chiho and Ashiya who had calculated the finances of the Demon Fortress, they concluded that a futon with the value of 29,800 yen could be bought under the initial agreement that Maou and Emi would split the bill equally.

To Emi, an expense of almost 15,000 yen was not a small sum. However, the bigger issue was, who should go to that place again to buy the futon?

"If you pass me the money first, I can go there alone to buy it, you know?"

"I don't want you handling my money."

When Maou suggested this, Emi immediately rejected on reflex.

"Sheesh, don't compare me to Urushihara. I won't spend the money which was entrusted to me by someone who saved it for the sake of Alas=Ramus."

"Wait a moment."

After everyone ignored Urushihara, who had protested as he was labelled with an outrageous sin,

"Since we go there rarely, isn't it good if the three of us go there again? The business is still open before 9pm, right? I think Alas=Ramus would be happy as well, yeah?"

The one who raised this suggestion which was outrageous in another sense was Chiho.

"B-but like this....."

Not expecting Chiho, who had a crush to Maou, to suggest this, Emi felt rather bewildered. However, Chiho spoke before Emi could do so.

"Didn't the both of you cause Alas=Ramus-chan to cry when quarrelling at the train station just now? If Papa and Mama lovingly go on another date, she will definitely forgive you."

"Wait, Chiho-chan?! Stop joking about these things?! And you even used the term date!"

"I don't want to put it that way as well, but all this is for the sake of Alas=Ramus-chan!"

"No, both of you, calm down a little....."

Maou tried to stop them, but Chiho and Emi did not seem to hear him.

“Even if it was for Alas=Ramus’s sake, stop joking about the Hero and the Demon King going on a date or anything like that.”

“From Alas=Ramus’s point of view, Maou-san is her Papa even if he is the Demon King. To Maou-san, the reverse is the same as well!”

“D-don’t throw the bomb over here.....”

In the end, to placate Chiho who had gone berserk, Emi had no choice but to make arrangements with Maou to go to Seiseki-sakuragaoka.

“Seriously~~..... what’s this about a date.....”

On the way home, Emi grabbed her head as she boarded the train. Having fallen asleep, Alas=Ramus was already merged with Emi.

Half a day ago, under summer sunshine and breezy wind along the Tama River, Emi had unexpectedly become aware of the ‘parent-child’, or ‘family’, dynamic because of Alas=Ramus, but if she treated it as a date, it would be no different from ‘husband and wife’, right?

“.....It’s just a picnic. It’s just a picnic by the river in summer. I have to wake Alas=Ramus up soon. Date or whatever, it’s definitely impos.....”

The instant Emi raised her head in determination, she noticed that there was a family sitting opposite her.

The two year old daughter was sleeping as she was hugged by her young mother. The father was also leaning on his wife’s shoulder in a tired manner, and he was snoring.

No matter how she looked at this scene, it seemed like a close family who had enjoyed their holiday.

A loving family is the best, such an unbelievable thought entered her mind.

Then she realized that this scene was exactly the same as herself with Maou and Alas=Ramus just a few hours ago.

“.....~~!!”

Emi, who finally realized this as she got off the train to transfer at Meidaimae Station, tried to explain to herself that she was blushing only because of the hot weather, but even then, after a long period of time, she was unable to stand up.